

This is an official
CDC Health Advisory

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Interim immunization recommendations for individuals displaced by
Hurricane Katrina

The purpose of these recommendations is two-fold:

1. **To ensure that children, adolescents, and adults are protected against vaccine-preventable diseases in accordance with current recommendations.**
Immunization records are unlikely to be available for a large number of displaced children and adults. It is important that immunizations are kept current if possible.
2. **To reduce the likelihood of outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases in large crowded group settings.**
Although the possibility of an outbreak is low in a vaccinated U.S. population, it is possible that outbreaks of varicella, rubella, mumps, or measles could occur. Although measles and rubella are no longer endemic to the United States, introductions do occur, and crowded conditions would facilitate their spread. Hepatitis A incidence is low in the affected areas, but post-exposure prophylaxis in these settings would be logistically difficult and so vaccination is recommended. In addition, the influenza season will begin soon and influenza can spread easily under crowded conditions.

I. Recommended immunizations

If immunization records are available:

Children and adults should be vaccinated according to the recommended child, adolescent, and adult immunization schedules.

- Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedule: www.cdc.gov/nip/recs/child-schedule.htm.
- Adult Immunization Schedule: www.cdc.gov/nip/recs/adult-schedule.htm.

If immunization records are not available:

Children aged <6 years of age should be forward vaccinated. They should be treated as if they were up-to-date with recommended immunizations and given any doses that are recommended for their current age. This includes the following vaccines:

- Diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and acellular pertussis vaccine (DTaP)
- Inactivated Poliovirus vaccine (IPV)
- *Haemophilus influenzae* type b vaccine (Hib)
- Hepatitis B vaccine (HepB)
- Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV)
- Measles-mumps-rubella vaccine (MMR)
- Varicella vaccine if no history of chickenpox

- Influenza vaccine if in Tier 1.* This includes all children from 6-23 month and children up to age 10 with a high risk condition (MMWR 2005;54:749-750). www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5434a4.htm
- Hepatitis A is not routinely recommended in all states; state immunization practice should be followed.

Children and adolescents (aged 11-18 years) should receive the following recommended immunizations:

- Adult formulation tetanus and diphtheria toxoids and acellular pertussis vaccine (Tdap)
- Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV (ages 11-12 and 15 years only)
- Influenza vaccine if in Tier 1* (MMWR 2005;54:749-750) www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5434a4.htm

Adults (aged >18 years) should receive the following recommended immunizations:

- Adult formulation tetanus and diphtheria toxoids (Td) if >10 years since receipt of any tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine
- Pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPV) for adults ≥65 years or with a high risk condition (MMWR 1997;46(No. RR-8):12-13)
- Influenza vaccine if in Tier 1*(MMWR 2005;54:749-750). www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5434a4.htm

II. Crowded Group Settings

In addition to the vaccines given routinely as part of the child and adolescent schedules, the following vaccines should be given to displaced person living in crowded group settings:

Influenza: Everyone ≥6 months of age should receive influenza vaccine.

Children 8 years old or younger should receive 2 doses, at least one month apart.

Varicella: Everyone >12 months of age and born in the United States after 1965 should receive one dose of this vaccine unless they have a history of chickenpox.

MMR: Everyone >12 months of age and born after 1957 should receive one dose of this vaccine.

Hepatitis A: Everyone ≥2 years of age should receive one dose of hepatitis A vaccine unless they have a clear history of hepatitis A.

Immunocompromised individuals, such as HIV-infected persons, pregnant women, and those on systemic steroids, should not receive the live viral vaccines, varicella and MMR. Screening should be performed by self-report.

Documentation

It is critical that all vaccines administered be properly documented. Immunization records should be provided in accordance with the practice of the state in which the vaccine is administered. Immunization cards should be provided to individuals at the time of vaccination.

Standard immunization practices should be followed for delivery of all vaccines, including provision of [Vaccine Information Statements](#).

Diarrheal diseases

Vaccination against typhoid and cholera are not recommended. Both diseases are extremely rare in the Gulf States, and there is no vaccine against cholera licensed for use in the United States.

Rabies

Vaccine should only be used for post-exposure prophylaxis (e.g., after an animal bite or bat exposure) according to CDC guidelines.

***Influenza Tier 1 (MMWR 2005;54:749-750).**

www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5434a4.htm

Tier 1 recommendations include the following priority groups:

- Persons ages ≥ 65 years with comorbid conditions
- Residents of long-term care facilities
- Persons aged 2-64 years with comorbid conditions
- Persons ≥ 65 years without comorbid conditions
- Children aged 6-23 months
- Pregnant women
- Healthcare personnel who provide direct patient care
- Household contacts and out-of-home caregivers of children aged < 6 months.

Additional Information

This document is also available online at

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/hurricanes/katrina/vaccinecdisplaced.asp>

DHEC Contact Information for Reportable Diseases and Reporting Requirements

Reporting of outbreaks/clusters of cases is consistent with South Carolina Law requiring the reporting of diseases and conditions to your state or local public health department. (State Law # 44-29-10 and Regulation # 61-20) as per the DHEC 2004 List of Reportable Conditions available at: http://www.scdhec.gov/health/disease/docs/reportable_conditions.pdf

Federal HIPAA legislation allows disclosure of protected health information, without consent of the individual, to public health authorities to collect and receive such information for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease. (HIPAA 45 CFR §164.512).

Public Health Offices

Mail or call reports to the Epidemiology/Disease Report Office in the appropriate county listed below.

Region 1

(Anderson, Oconee)

220 McGee Road
Anderson, SC 29625
Phone: (864) 231-1966
Fax: (864) 260-5623
Nights / Weekends: 1-(866)-298-4442

(Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Saluda)

PO Box 3227
1736 S. Main Street
Greenwood, SC 29646
Phone: 1-888-218-5475
Fax: (864) 942-3690
Nights / Weekends: 1-800-420-1915

Region 2

(Cherokee, Spartanburg, Union)

PO Box 4217
151 E. Wood Street
Spartanburg, SC 29305-4217
Phone: (864) 596-2227 ext. 210
Fax: (864) 596-3443
Nights / Weekends: (864) 809-3825

(Greenville, Pickens)

PO Box 2507
200 University Ridge
Greenville, SC 29602-2507
Phone: (864) 282-4139
Fax: (864) 282-4373
Nights / Weekends: (864) 460-5355 or
1-800-993-1186

Region 3

(Chester, Lancaster, York)

PO Box 817
1833 Pageland Highway
Lancaster, SC 29721
Phone: (803) 286-9948
Fax: (803) 286-5418
Nights / Weekends: 1-(866)-867-3886 or
1-(888)-739-0748

(Fairfield, Lexington, Newberry, Richland)

2000 Hampton Street
Columbia, SC 29204
Phone: (803) 576-2749
Fax: (803) 576-2993
Nights / Weekends: (803) 304-4252

Region 4

(Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee, Sumter)

PO Box 1628
105 North Magnolia Street
Sumter, SC 29150
Phone: (803) 773-5511
Fax: (803) 773-6366
Nights / Weekends: 1-(877)-831-4647

(Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Marlboro, Marion)

145 E. Cheves Street
Florence, SC 29506
Phone: (843) 661-4830
Fax: (843) 661-4859
Nights / Weekends: (843) 660-8145

Region 5

(Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell)

1680 Richland Avenue, W. Suite 40
Aiken, SC 29801
Phone: (803) 642-1618
Fax: (803) 643-8386
Nights / Weekends: (803) 827-8668 or
1-800-614-1519

Region 5 (cont.)

(Bamberg, Calhoun, Orangeburg)

PO Box 1126
1550 Carolina Avenue
Orangeburg, SC 29116
Phone: (803) 533-7199
Fax: (803) 536-9118
Nights / Weekends: (803) 954-8513

Region 6

(Georgetown, Horry, Williamsburg)

2830 Oak Street
Conway, SC 29526-4560
Phone: (843) 365-3126
Fax: (843) 365-3153
Nights / Weekends: (843) 381-6710

Region 7

(Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester)

4050 Bridge View Drive, Suite 600
N. Charleston, SC 29405
Phone: 843-746-3806
Fax: (843) 746-3851
Nights / Weekends: (843) 219-8470

Region 8

(Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, Jasper)

1235 Lady's Island Drive
Port Royal, SC 29935
Phone: (843) 525-7603
Fax: (843) 525-7621
Nights / Weekends: 1-800-614-4698

Bureau of Disease Control

Acute Disease Epidemiology Division
1751 Calhoun Street
Box 101106
Columbia, SC
Phone: (803) 898-0861
Fax: (803) 898-0897
Nights / Weekends: 1-888-847-0902

Categories of Health Alert messages:

Health Alert conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.
Health Advisory provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.
Health Update provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.